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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 060953/0119

5/4/99  
J. J.  
03-08-99

In re patent application of  
Rainer HINTSCHE and Manfred PAESCHKE  
Filed: September 14, 1998

U.S. National Phase PCT/DE97/00494  
International Filing Date: March 12, 1997

For: DETECTION OF MOLECULES AND MOLECULE COMPLEXES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification

At page 14, line 29, please insert the following:

--It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made to the methods of this invention. Thus, it is intended that the present invention cover such modifications and variations, provided they come within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

The disclosure of all publications cited above are expressly incorporated herein by reference in their entireties to the same extent as if each were incorporated by reference individually.

The disclosure of the German Patent Application No. 196 10 115.8, for which benefit under 35 USC §119 is claimed, is expressly incorporated by reference herein in its entirety, including the specification, claim and figures.

The disclosure of the PCT Application No. PCT/DE97/00494, for which benefit under 35 USC §119 is claimed, is expressly incorporated by reference herein in its entirety, including the specification, claim and figures.

The amendments of May 2, 1998 to the specification and claims under Article 34 of the PCT Application No. PCT/DE97/00494, also are expressly incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.—

#### In the Claims

Please amend the following claims. Amended claims 1-5 are presented for examination as further amended herein.

Claim 3, line 1; delete "or 2"

Claim 4, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 3" to -claim 1--

Claim 5, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 4" to -claim 1--

Claim 6, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 5" to -claim 1--

Claim 8, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 7" to -claim 1--

Claim 9, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 8" to -claim 1--

Claim 10, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 9" to -claim 1--

Claim 11, line 1; change "one of claims 8 to 10" to -claim 8--

Claim 13, line 1; delete "or 12"

Claim 15, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 14" to -claim 1--

Claim 16, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 15" to -claim 1—

Claim 17, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 16" to -claim 1--

Claim 18, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 17" to -claim 1--

Claim 19, line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 18" to -claim 1--

Claim 20; line 1; change "one of claims 1 to 19" to -claim 1--

Respectfully submitted,

Sept. 14, 1998  
Date

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